

PAWG DFO Briefing 2/3/11

Project updates

La barge Platform: Alternatives will be completed by March 1, will begin impact analysis

NPL : Working on Plan of Development and still awaiting publishing of Notice of Intent

PXP Noble Basin Project: Draft EIS is on the street comments due March 1

Paradise sub-station - The Paradise sub-station went live in early December. Distribution from that system is tied into Boulder and should improve electrical service to that area.

Riley Ridge Project - Cimarex has completed both pipelines from their Riley Ridge plant and has installed the power poles to the plant. They still need to install power lines and energize their substation at the plant. They also haven't installed the meteorological stations and fiber optic cables that will run from the plant to the met. stations. Work is shut down for the winter and will resume in May. The plant should be operational by the end of 2011.

Lease Parcels – There will be 4 parcels in the October lease sale within the Pinedale Field Office. The Field Office is reviewing existing 9 lease parcels offered in 2010 for conformance with the Bureau's new wildlands policy. The BLM has not issued these parcels due to protests.

Electrification of the Anticline – Rocky Mountain Power is discussing a proposal with BLM to provide power to the condensate gathering facilities, compressor stations, and water disposal facilities on the south end of the Anticline. The distribution lines will tie into the sub-station at Paradise or the sub-station on the south end of the Jonah Field.

Annual Drilling Plans, Anticline – The Pinedale Field Office is reviewing Operator's plans for drilling between Feb 2010 and Feb 2011. Annual plans should be approved the third week of February.

Well spud report since 11/4/10

54 total: 42 Ultra; 12 SWEPI

2010 mitigation fund contributions

\$2.5M available in 2011 for projects or investments; salaries and wildlife monitoring are already earmarked

Anticline monitoring overview

2010-11 Mule deer monitoring

2009-10 monitoring has been completed, 2010 report has been posted on PAPO web page

Capture and collaring for 2010-11 monitoring was completed 1/24/2010

Quadrat survey will be conducted in Feb 2011

2010-11 Annual report is due June 2011

2010-11 Pronghorn monitoring

2009-10 collars have been retrieved and analysis is underway - monitoring report is due the end of April 2011

January aerial ground count survey conducted 1/15/2010

Capture and collaring for 2011 completed 1/24/2010

Monthly aerial ground count surveys will continue through March

2010-11 Sage-grouse monitoring

2010 report is complete and undergoing final review (will be posted on PAPO web page in Feb)
Winter concentration survey was completed 1/22/2011
There will be no re-collaring of birds and nest monitoring this year
Lek surveys will begin April 1, 2011 (to be conducted by agency personnel)

2010-11 Snow and Traffic monitoring

Nov and Dec 2010 surveys complete
Currently collecting January data
Surveys will be ongoing until May 2011
2010 summary of data in process; will be completed by Feb 3rd (for PAWG meeting)

2010-11 Raptor monitoring

2 of 3 winter roost surveys have been completed
Final winter roost survey is to be conducted in Feb 2011
Final winter roost report is due March 2011
Begin spring nesting surveys mid-April 2011

2010 white-tailed prairie dog monitoring

Completed, 2010 report has been posted on PAPO web page

Staff are also preparing updated contracts for 2011 raptor, pygmy rabbit and white-tailed prairie dog monitoring

We will be renewing contracts with existing contractors, Hayden-Wing and WEST to continue monitoring in 2011

Recent Additions to PAPO website

Air, Water, Snow depth, Traffic, Mule Deer Migration, conservation plans for funded easements (by Feb 15)

Minerals and Lands staffing update;

- New Petroleum Engineer, James Evans, on board as of December 7. Have selected 2nd Petroleum Engineer but have not negotiated a starting date.
- New Legal Instrument Examiner, Liz Dailey, on board as of Late November.
- Team Lead for the NPL EIS, Jim Lucas, retired.
- Land Law Examiner for the Lands section, Joanne Lucas, retired.
- New Petroleum Engineer Technician, Randall Williams, on board as of January 24.
- Tim Zebulske is detailed as supervisory Natural Resource Specialist, position to be filled in the next 60 days.
- Interviewing for two more PETs next week.
- Made selection on geo-hydrologist position (not yet approved). This position will be responsible for air and groundwater issues within the Field Office.

Resources staffing update;

- Resources Clerk position vacated in November
- On year detail wildlife biologist position in place

JIO/PAPO office staffing update:

- Interviewing for data manager week of Feb
- Cara/range/NEPA position vacant week of Feb 7

Calendar

PAPO board meeting April 25/26 probably starting at 1:00 Location: Pinedale BLM

Wildlife Planning Meeting Follow-up public meeting 2/23 Location: Pinedale BLM

Annual operators Planning Meeting 2/24 Location: Pinedale BLM
PAWG spring meeting May 5/6 Starting noon on May 5 and 10AM on May 6
Community Riparian Workshop 7/18 week
Field Riparian Workshop 8/23 week